I hereby cerkty that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petitions, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313 on February

Examining Group 1646 Patent Application Docket No. UF-375 Serial No. 10/602,394 Conf. No. 1696

Margaret Efron, Patent Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Carrie Haskell-Luevano

Serial No.

10/602,394

Filed

June 23, 2003

Art Unit

1646

For

Novel Melanocortin Receptor Templates, Peptides, and Use Thereof

Conf. No.

1696

Mail Stop PETITION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.182

Sir:

The above-referenced patent application was filed with an unsigned Declaration (37 CFR 1.63) and Power of Attorney form. Transmitted herewith is a fully executed Declaration (37 CFR 1.63) and Power of Attorney form for the subject application.

With regard to the timing of this submission, please note that, upon a routine review of our docket on January 16, 2004, it was determined that our firm had never received a Notice to File Missing Parts in this case. From a review of PAIR on January 16, 2004, it was noted that a Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application dated September 8, 2003 had been mailed. Consultation with personnel at the Notice to File Missing Parts Office resulted in receipt of the missing Notice by facsimile (after an erroneous transmittal first to the law firm of Wechsler & Wechsler) on January 16, 2004. A copy of that Notice is attached hereto.



The applicant respectfully submits that a Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application for the above-referenced application was <u>not</u> received by the applicant during the month of September 2003 or thereafter, until January 16, 2004. Attached herewith is a Declaration of Mr. David R. Saliwanchik, stating that all incoming mail records have been checked and that no such Notice regarding the subject application was received from September 2003 through January 15, 2004.

The applicant hereby respectfully petitions that the submission of the executed Declaration and Power of Attorney be considered timely, and that a Petition fee should not be charged (or should be refunded if it is charged).

To the extent that a Petition fee is necessary, the fee of \$130 set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-0065. Please charge the surcharge of \$65.00 (for the late-filed declaration) to Deposit Account No. 19-0065. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 19-0065. Two copies of this petition are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret H. Efron

Patent Attorney

Registration No. 47,545

Phone No.:

352-375-8100

Fax No.:

352-372-5800

Address:

2421 N.W. 41st Street, Suite A-1

Gainesville, FL 32606-6669

MHE/la

Attachments: Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney form;

Two copies of this Petition and authorization to deposit account;

Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application received January

16, 2004; and

Declaration of David R. Saliwanchik under 37 CFR §1.131.

FEB 1 3 2004

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